

*Pre Amended*  
*OB*  
*MW*

Dkt. 01088

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1623

CAROLE LE BERRE et al

Examiner: R. Deemie

Serial No.: 09/807,434

Filed: April 23, 2001

For: METHOD FOR PREPARING ACETIC ACID AND/OR METHYL  
ACETATE IN THE PRESENCE OF IRIIDIUM AND PLATINUM

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**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please enter into the application the amendments set  
forth below and in the attached Appendix:

1. (Twice Amended) A process for the preparation of acetic acid, methyl acetate or both acetic acid and methyl acetate, comprising a reaction selected from the group consisting of carbonylation of methanol, isomerization of methyl formate or both carbonylation of methanol and isomerization of methyl formate, said reaction being carried out in a liquid phase reaction medium in the presence of water, a solvent, a homogeneous catalyst system comprising iridium and a halogen-

*562*  
*519*

*B1*